

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COLOMB 00958 170929 Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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O R 170830 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9377

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 958

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, IR, CE

SUBJ: DEPSEC VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA: PROGRAM IN SRI LANKA

HONG KONG FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND ASST SECTY SISCO

REF: COLOMBO 956; HKONG 3656

1. MDFA CHIEF OF PROTOCOL HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT PRIME MINISTER HAS RESCHEDULED CALL OF DEPUTY SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO FOR 7:30 PM APRIL 21 (THAT IS, AFTER FUNERAL SERVICES FOR FORMER PRIME MINISTER DUDLEY SENANAYAKE). DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE WILL BE AT 8:30 , WITH PRINCIPALS JOINING WHENEVER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ENDS. REVISED DETAILED SCHEDULE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS SOON AS CERTAIN MATTERS NOW PENDING BECAUSE OF FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE RESOLVED.

2. RE ARRIVAL STATEMENT, WE RECOMMEND THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY MAKE REFERENCE TO DEATH OF SENANAYAKE. FOLLOWING LANGUAGE IS SUGGESTED AS SEPARATE PARA TO FOLLOW THIRD PARA RE 25 TH ANNI-VERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS: " WE ARE SADDENED AT THE DEATH OF ONE OF YOUR GREAT LEADERS, MR DUDLEY SENANAYAKE, WHOSE FUNERAL IS TAKING PLACE THIS VERY DAY." SUGGEST LANGUAGE IN FINAL PARA THEN BE CHANGED FROM " OUR ONLY REGRET IS THE BREVITY" TO " WE REGRET THE BREVITY." REQUEST REPLY RE ARRIVAL STATEMENT SOONEST.
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VAN HOLLEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COLOMB00958
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730445/aaaairpd.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 COLOMBO 956, HON KONG 3656
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <13-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980123
Subject: DEPSEC VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA: PROGRAM IN SRI LANKA
TAGS: OCON, CE, IR
To: HONG KONG
NEW DELHI
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

